

Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

USSS-00 SY-10 A-01 OPR-02 EUR-25 IO-14 DRC-01 FS-01

/083 W

----- 128076

O 170925Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3184

INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

MSG BATTALION WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L KAMPALA 3089

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UG US

SUBJECT: USG-GOU RELATIONS

REF: STATE 205235

BEIRUT FOR CO, CO "B", MSG

1. CONCUR IN GENERAL WITH REFTEL. A FEW COUNTER-PROPOSALS
DETAILED BELOW.

2. OFFICIAL PRESENCE: WE NOW NUMBER 37. THREE (BARCAS AND TWO
DEPENDENTS) ARE ALREADY OUT OF COUNTRY. (EMBASSY NAIROBI SHOULD
BRIEF BARCAS ON SITUATION.) WOULD PROPOSE THAT DURING NEXT
WEEK TO TEN DAYS WE REDUCE BY AN ADDITIONAL 20 PERSONS, WHO
WOULD BE EVACUATED GRADUALLY TO NAIROBI. THOSE TO LEAVE WOULD
BE TWO EMPLOYEES (BETTS AND CHUDYK) PLUS FOLLOWING 18 DEPENDENTS:
2 KEELEY, 3 BURROWS, 5 HAASE, 3 CANNING, 2 RINGDAHL, 2 NOSKO
AND 1 KEYES. THAT WOULD INCLUDE ALL DEPENDENTS. FIVE DEPENDENTS
PLAN TO DEPART THIS AFTERNOON, 17 OCTOBER, ON EAST AFRICAN
2 RINGDAHL, 2 NOSKO AND 1 KEYES. I WOULD PROPOSE THAT AT LEAST
INITIALLY WE RETAIN 14 EMPLOYEES AT POST, RATHER THAN THE 12

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PROPOSED BY DEPARTMENT TO BE SUBSEQUENTLY REDUCED TO 10. THUS,

I WOULD PROPOSE TO KEEP HERE FOR PRESENT THE FOLLOWING: KEELEY, BURROWS, HAASE, CANNING, RINGDAHL, NOSKO, PATLA, BALLINGER, PLUS SIX MARINES. IF USIA PLANS TO CLOSE UP SHOP HERE, CANNING COULD FIRST MANAGE CLOSURE AND THEN DEPART. (WE ASSUME THAT IN INCLUDING CANNING AMONG THOSE TO DEPART POST, DEPARTMENT/USIA HAVE DECIDED SHUT DOWN USIS OPERATIONS HERE.) DEPENDING ON HOW SITUATION DEVELOPS, WE COULD OF COURSE REDUCE FURTHER AS CONDITIONS WARRANT.

3. PRIVATE AMCITS: WE PLAN BEGIN OCT. 18 ADVISING THEM, THROUGH WARDEN NETWORK, ALONG LINES PARA FOUR REFTEL. DEPARTMENT SHOULD APPRECIATE THAT PASSING THIS WORD, PLUS DEPARTURE OF OUR FIRST OFFICIAL DEPENDENTS, WILL SPREAD STORY VERY RAPIDLY THROUGH FOREIGN AND UGANDAN COMMUNITIES THAT AMERICANS ARE "PULLING OUT." WE CANNOT PREDICT HOW GENERAL AMIN WILL REACT, BUT BELIEVE IT WOULD BE HELPFUL FOR AF/E DIRECTORY TO BRIEF ETIANG AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, AS SET FORTH PARA FIVE REFTEL, SO THAT ETIANG CAN EXPLAIN SITUATION TO GENERAL AMIN, NAMELY, THAT WE ARE NOT BREAKING RELATIONS AND INTEND TO MAINTAIN A SMALLER DIPLOMATIC PRESENCE IN KAMPALA. AMIN'S MOST LIKELY REACTION, UNFORTUNATELY, WILL BE THAT WE ARE OUT TO SABOTAGE UGANDA BY PULLING OUT ALL OUR REMAINING TEACHERS AND OTHER PERSONNEL, FOLLOWING PULL-OUT OF PEACE CORPS AND USAID. IN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCE HE MAY WELL CONCLUDE THAT HE DOESN'T WANT A U.S. DIPLOMATIC PRESENCE HERE ANY LONGER AS IT SERVES NO USEFUL PURPOSE (OF HIS).

4. WE SHOULD NOT COUNT ON IT, BUT AMIN MAY DECIDE TO HOLD HIS FIRE UNTIL AFTER HIS TRIP TO NEW YORK, ASSUMING HE IS STILL GOING THERE. BY TIME HE RETURNS HERE MOST OF THOSE AMERICANS WHO ARE LEAVING COULD BE OUT OF COUNTRY.

5. PLEASE SEE ALSO ROGER CHANNEL MESSAGE TO FOLLOW.
KEELEY

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